

Amendments To The Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown.

1 – 10 (canceled)

11. (new) A method for releasing a connection in a communication network, comprising:
assigning a controller to a call control layer;
assigning a gateway to a resource control layer controlled by the controller;
implementing the gateway as a separate unit from the controller;
sending a control message from the controller to the gateway to release the connection;
releasing the connection in the gateway;
notifying the release to at least one network node along the connection; and
effecting the notification on the resource control layer.

12. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the communication network is a packet-oriented network.

13. (new) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the packet-oriented network is an integrated voice-data network.

14. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the communication network is interconnected with a circuit-switched network via the gateway.

15. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the call control layer and the resource control layer are functionally split such that the resource control layer is assigned only functions that are required for transmitting information and possesses no network control function, and the call control layer includes the network control function for controlling the resource control layer.

16. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the gateway which is controlled by the controller is implemented on a different physical device from the controller.

17. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the gateway which is controlled by the controller is implemented on a different hardware platform from the controllers.

18. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the control message is sent if a recovery of the controller occurs.

19. (new) A method for releasing a connection in a communication network that is interconnected with a calling subscriber circuit-switched network via a gateway, comprising:
assigning a controller to a call control layer;
assigning the gateway to a resource control layer controlled by the controller;
sending a control message from the controller to the gateway to release the connection;
releasing the connection in the gateway;
notifying the release to a switching node of the calling subscriber circuit-switched network; and
effecting the notification on the resource control layer if a failure of a transmission channel between the gateway and the switching node occurs.

20. (new) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the failure causes a hardware monitoring of the switching node to report the transmission channel as failed.

21. (new) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the control message is sent if a recovery of the controller that controls the gateway that is interconnected with the calling subscriber circuit-switched network occurs.

22. (new) A method for releasing a connection in a communication network that is interconnected with a called subscriber circuit-switched network via a gateway, comprising:
- assigning a controller to a call control layer;
 - assigning the gateway to a resource control layer controlled by the controller;
 - sending a control message from the controller to the gateway to release the connection;
 - releasing the connection in the gateway; and
 - notifying the release to a second gateway node of the communication network by sending a special message from a first gateway to the second gateway.
23. (new) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the first gateway is interconnected with a called subscriber circuit-switched network.
24. (new) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the second gateway is interconnected with a calling subscriber circuit-switched network.
25. (new) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the special message is RTCP packet by means of which an information "Packet Loss = 100 %" is displayed from the first gateway to the second gateway.
26. (new) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the second gateway, after exceeding a threshold value of the special message, notifies the release of the connection on the resource control layer to at least one further network node.
27. (new) The method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the further network node is a switching node of a circuit-switched network.
28. (new) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the notification is transmitted by the second gateway to the controller on the call control layer to a further network node.

29. (new) The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the further network node is a switching node of a circuit-switched network.

30. (new) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the control message is sent if a recovery of the controller that controls the first gateway occurs.